

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02236 271548Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W
-----016634 271550Z /47

R 271500Z DEC 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9930
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2236

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IS, EG, JO, XF
SUBJ: WEST BANK REACTIONS TO BEGIN'S PLAN

1. INITIAL WEST BANK REACTION TO BEGIN'S PLAN FOR WEST BANK/
GAZA AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS HAS BEEN SHARPLY NEGATIVE.
BY NEGLECTING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES OF ULTIMATE SOVEREIGNTY
AND SELF DETERMINATION, WEST BANK LEADERS ARE CONCERNED THAT
BEGIN INTENDS TO INCORPORATE THE WEST BANK/GAZA INTO THE STATE
OF ISRAEL.

2. BETHLEHEM'S MAYOR FREIJ, ON DECEMBER 24, TOLD SENATOR BAYH
THAT HE STRONGLY OPPOSED WHAT HE KNEW OF BEGIN'S PLAN. IF
ISRAELIS WERE TO OBTAIN UNLIMITED RIGHT TO PURCHASE LAND ON
WEST BANK AND TO SETTLE, WITH THEIR SUPERIOR ORGANIZATIONAL
SKILLS AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES, THEY WOULD SOON BE SO NUMEROUS
THAT THE WEST BANK, FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, WOULD BE
INTEGRAL PART OF ISRAEL. IN THIS SENSE, BEGIN'S PLAN WAS
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WORSE THAN PRESENT REGIME OF MILITARY OCCUPATION.

3. ISRAELI RADIO DECEMBER 27 QUOTES NEGATIVE REACTION OF TULKARM
MAYOR HILMI HANNOUN WHO STATED ISMAILYIA HAD FAILED.

4. EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC PRESS PREDICTABLY NEGATIVE. "ASH-SHA'AB"
STATED THAT THE ISMAILYIA MEETING MET AN UNAVOIDABLE DESTINY.

DAYAN KNOWS VERY WELL THE AILMENT AND MEDICINE WHEN HE SAID, "IF ISRAEL WANTS AN AGREEMENT AND PEACE, IT MUST MAKE DIFFICULT AND PAINFUL DECISIONS." ACCORDING TO "ASH'SHA'AB", "THESE ARE THE DECISIONS TO RETURN THE LANDS TO THEIR OWNERS AND RESTORE RIGHTS TO THE PALESTINIANS."

5. "AL FAJR" EDITORIALIZES THAT THE PARTIES COULD ONLY AGREE ON BILATERAL ISSUES WHICH THEY WILL ANNOUNCE AT A SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY. "WITHOUT ADMITTING FROM THE START THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF DETERMINATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THEIR PALESTINIAN INDEPENDENT STATE, THE PEACE WAGON WILL LOSE ITS WAY AND INEVITABLY FALL."

6. THE MODERATE PRO-JORDANIAN "AL QUDS" STROVE FOR OPTIMISM AND ENTITLED ITS EDITORIAL, "WE STILL HAVE CONFIDENCE AND FAITH." "WE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES SEE NO MORE THAN WHAT IS AROUND US, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE SHOULD FORGET THE REST OF OUR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE OUTSIDE BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS AND WE SHOULD NOT DECIDE ON ANY MATTER WITHOUT CONSULTING THEM. ISRAELI AND FOREIGN NEWS MEDIA CALL SOME OF US 'MODERATE PALESTINIANS' BECAUSE WE ADVOCATE PEACE. BUT ASKING FOR PEACE IS ONE THING, AND CALLING FOR SURRENDER IS SOMETHING ELSE. WE ARE MODERATE, BUT NOT SUBDUED. WE REFUSE THE (BEGIN) PROPOSALS BECAUSE THEY ARE CLOSER TO SYMPATHY FOR US THAN RESPECT. WE DEMAND RESPECT FOR OUR RIGHTS, NOT SYMPATHY FOR THE SITUATION WE ARE IN."
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7. COMMENT: IF A MODERATE SUCH AS MAYOR FREIJ IS NEGATIVE, WE ESTIMATE THAT THE REACTION OF PRO-PLO MAYORS WILL BE EVEN MORE SO.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IS, EG, JO, XF, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
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